

REMARKS

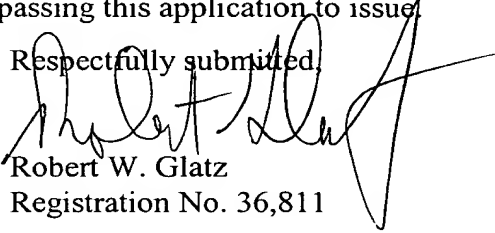
Claims 1-6, 14-23, 27-37 and 59-68 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 56-58 and 69-72 are allowed. Claims 7, 8, 24, 25, 38 and 39 are indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the recitations of Claim 7 and Claim 7 has been canceled. Claim 8 has been amended to depend on Claim 1. Corresponding amendments have been made to Independent Claims 18 and 29 and dependent Claims 24, 25, 38 and 39. Accordingly, Applicants submit that all the claims are in form for allowance. These amendments are made to expedite issuance of this case and do not indicate the Applicants' agreement with the grounds for rejection.

Claims 60 and 65 further stood rejected in the Final Action under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The Advisory Action did not address Applicants' responsive arguments from the previous amendment or re-assert the Section 112 rejections. Accordingly, Applicants have not canceled these claims on the assumption that the Section 112 rejections have been withdrawn. However, to expedite entry of this amendment and issuance of the present application, the Examiner is authorized to cancel Claims 60 and 65 by way of Examiner's Amendment if Applicants' understanding is mistaken.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment After Final as it merely places this case in a form indicated as allowable. Applicants further respectfully request allowance of all the pending claims and passing this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

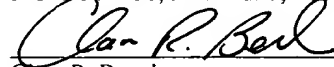

Robert W. Glatz
Registration No. 36,811

Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
P.O. Box 37428
Raleigh, NC 27627
(919) 854-1400 phone
(919) 854-1401 fax
Customer No. 20792

361310

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

Mailing label number: EV 381448157 US Date of Deposit: May 13, 2004
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Clara R. Beard